

AMERICAN LEAF TOBACCO.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

COMMUNICATING

A letter from the Secretary of State, in answer to a resolution of the House respecting duties imposed upon American leaf tobacco by the Commercial Union of the German States.

JUNE 11, 1856.—Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

To the House of Representatives:

In answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th of last month, requesting information in regard to a contemplated imposition of additional duties on American leaf tobacco by the Zoll Verein, or Commercial Union, of the German States, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, to whom the resolution was referred.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON, June 4, 1856.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 30, 1856.

The Secretary of State, to whom has been referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th instant, requesting the President to communicate to that body, "if not incompatible with the public interest, whether any official information has been received by him, or any department of the government, official or otherwise, of a contemplated imposition of additional duties on American leaf tobacco by the Zoll Verein, or Commercial Union, of the German States, and, if so, that he communicate such information to this House," has the honor to report to the President that information of the character adverted to has been received at the Department of State from the minister of the United States at Berlin, as well as from other sources; but

that there is reason to believe that no increase of duties will result from the movement which has been made on the subject in the legislative houses of Prussia.

The Secretary of State suggests that a communication to Congress at this time of the information called for by the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 8th instant would not be advisable.

Respectfully submitted.

W. L. MARCY.

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.